

cosponsors of S. Res. 282, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month.

S. RES. 299

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 299, a resolution honoring the life, legacy, and example of former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on the twentieth anniversary of his death.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARKEY, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2231. A bill to express the sense of Congress that the Government of the Maldives should immediately release former President Mohamed Nasheed from prison and release all other political prisoners in the country, as well as guarantee due process for and respect the human rights of all of the people of the Maldives; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, since January 2015, President Abdulla Yameen of the Maldives has increasingly cracked down on dissent within his own party and the political opposition, presided over the erosion of judicial impartiality, and put increasing pressure on civil society. The arrest of former president Mohamed Nasheed, who was convicted in a widely condemned trial that UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad described as containing "flagrant irregularities", and who remains imprisoned today, is indicative of the current situation.

That is why today I am introducing, together with a bipartisan coalition of 13 other Senators, a bill expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the Maldives should immediately release former president Nasheed and all other political prisoners in the country, and guarantee due process for, and respect the human rights of, all of the people of the Maldives.

The United States and the Maldives have common interests in maritime security, commerce, and addressing climate change. But we also expect our partners to respect the fundamental rights of their people, including those who disagree with the government's policies, and to uphold the basic prin-

ciples of justice. I thank the cosponsors of this legislation for their support.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 302—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL AND IN CONDEMNATION OF PALESTINIAN TERROR ATTACKS

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BENNET, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. HELLER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 302

Whereas Israel is a democratic ally and major strategic partner of the United States, as codified by the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-296), and cooperation between Israel and the United States continues to increase in importance with a swiftly shifting security situation in the Middle East and North Africa;

Whereas Jerusalem is an undivided city, eternal capital of Israel, holiest city for the Jewish people, central to the worship of three monotheistic religions, and unique in the Middle East region as a city of religious tolerance where Israel guarantees access, security, and respect for the three monotheistic religions to worship in peace at holy sites;

Whereas, upon Israel securing control of Jerusalem in 1967, it has maintained a policy of keeping the Haram Al Sharif specifically open for Muslim prayer, welcoming over 3,500,000 regular worshippers annually;

Whereas the Government of Israel upholds the 1994 Treaty of Peace Between the State of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, which states in Article Nine that each party "will provide freedom of access to places of religious and historical significance," as well as "act together to promote interfaith relations among the three monotheistic religions, with the aim of working toward religious understanding, moral commitment, freedom of religious worship, and tolerance and peace";

Whereas Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), committed in his exchange of letters with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on September 9, 1993, that "the PLO renounces the use of terrorism and other acts of violence and will assume responsibility over all PLO elements and personnel in order to assure their compliance," and under the subsequent 1995 Oslo II Accord, the Palestinians pledged to "abstain from incitement, including hostile propaganda . . . [and to] take legal measures to prevent such incitement by any organizations, groups or individuals within their jurisdiction";

Whereas the President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, wrongly announced during the tenth anniversary of Yasser Arafat's death in November 2014 that Israel has no claim to Jerusalem, that the Temple Mount will not be allowed to be "contaminated" by Jews, and that Jewish prayer on the Temple Mount would lead to a "devastating religious war";

Whereas President Abbas falsely claimed during his address to the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015 that the

Government of Israel has used "brutal force to impose its plans to undermine the Islamic and Christian sanctities in Jerusalem" and announced that the Palestinian Authority is no longer bound by the Oslo Accords;

Whereas Israel has in recent weeks been subjected to an alarming wave of terrorism directed against innocent civilians by Palestinians armed with knives, meat cleavers, guns, and cars;

Whereas there have been approximately 69 such attacks since the beginning of October 2015, leaving 11 Israelis dead and another 145 wounded;

Whereas United States citizens have lost their lives as a result of these terrorist attacks, including Richard Lakin and Eitam Henkin;

Whereas these random, gruesome attacks are intended to instill a sense of fear among the people of Israel leading their normal lives, and also destabilize security for both Palestinians and Israelis;

Whereas Israel, Jordan, and the United States have reached an agreement regarding the installation of surveillance cameras on the Temple Mount in accordance with the respective responsibilities of the Israelis authorities and the Jordanian Waqf.

Whereas President Abbas has helped to fuel the current violence in recent weeks by falsely casting Israel as the brutal aggressor in multiple public speeches, refusing to condemn the lethal terror attacks, and failing to acknowledge Israel's right to self-defense;

Whereas President Abbas' statements are part of a pattern of incitement among Palestinian leaders that includes denial of the Jewish heritage of Jerusalem, paying monthly salaries to the families of imprisoned Palestinian terrorists, praising slain terrorists as martyrs, demonizing Jews in official Palestinian Authority media, and encouraging attacks on social media; and

Whereas Palestinian leaders have repeatedly threatened to suspend cooperation and further encouraged violence by blaming Israel for killing Palestinian perpetrators of these heinous crimes: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns these brutal attacks in the harshest terms possible;

(2) welcomes Israel's commitment to the continued maintenance of the status quo on the Temple Mount;

(3) urges the President and the international community to join in forcefully condemning these Palestinian terror attacks;

(4) clarifies that there is no justification for these types of attacks and that there is a direct correlation between the recent upsurge in violence and Arab incitement regarding the Temple Mount;

(5) stands with the people of Israel during these difficult days;

(6) supports Israel's right to self-defense and rejects any suggestion of the moral equivalence of Israeli security personnel protecting its citizens from senseless violence and terrorists intent to deliberately take innocent lives;

(7) supports the agreement reached to install surveillance cameras on the Temple Mount according to the arrangements to be determined between the parties;

(8) calls upon President Abbas to stop all incitement by Palestinian officials and by Palestinian media, to strongly and unequivocally demand an end to the violence, and to take all steps necessary to halt these attacks;

(9) expresses support and admiration for individuals and organizations working to encourage cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians;

(10) encourages President Abbas to continue strengthening and maintaining security cooperation with Israel;

(11) reiterates that Palestinian political goals will never be achieved through violence; and

(12) calls on all parties to return to the negotiating table immediately and without preconditions, as direct discussions remain the best avenue to ending the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 303—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING NOVEMBER 8, 2015, AS “NATIONAL NURSE-MANAGED HEALTH CLINIC WEEK”

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 303

Whereas a nurse-managed health clinic is a nonprofit community-based health care site that offers primary care and wellness services based on the nursing model;

Whereas the nursing model emphasizes—

(1) protection, promotion, and optimization of health;

(2) prevention of illness;

(3) alleviation of suffering; and

(4) diagnosis and treatment of illness;

Whereas an advanced practice nurse leads each nurse-managed health clinic and an interdisciplinary team of highly qualified health care professionals staffs each nurse-managed health clinic;

Whereas each nurse-managed health clinic offers a broad scope of services, including—

(1) treatment for acute and chronic illnesses;

(2) routine physical exams;

(3) immunizations for adults and children;

(4) disease screenings;

(5) health education;

(6) prenatal care;

(7) dental care; and

(8) drug and alcohol treatment;

Whereas, as of September 2015, approximately 500 nurse-managed health clinics—

(1) provided care in the United States; and

(2) recorded more than 2,500,000 patient encounters annually;

Whereas nurse-managed health clinics serve a unique, dual role as healthcare safety net access points and health workforce development sites, because the majority of nurse-managed health clinics—

(1) are affiliated with schools of nursing; and

(2) serve as clinical education sites for students entering the health profession;

Whereas nurse-managed health clinics strengthen the healthcare safety net by expanding access to primary care and chronic disease management services for vulnerable and medically underserved populations in diverse rural, urban, and suburban communities;

Whereas research has shown that—

(1) nurse-managed health clinics experience high rates of—

(A) patient retention; and

(B) patient satisfaction; and

(2) nurse-managed health clinic patients, compared to patients of other similar safety net providers, experience—

(A) higher rates of generic medication fills; and

(B) lower hospitalization rates;

Whereas the 2013 Health Affairs article, “Nurse-Managed Health Centers And Patient-Centered Medical Homes Could Mitigate Expected Primary Care Physician Shortage”, highlights the ability of each

nurse-managed health clinic to bring high-quality care to individuals who may not otherwise receive needed services; and

Whereas each nurse-managed health clinic that offers primary care and wellness services provides quality care in a cost-effective manner: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning November 8, 2015, as “National Nurse-Managed Health Clinic Week”;

(2) supports the ideals and goals of National Nurse-Managed Health Clinic Week; and

(3) encourages the continued support of nurse-managed health clinics so that nurse-managed health clinics may continue to serve as healthcare workforce development sites for the next generation of primary care providers.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 304—RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 28, 2015, AS “SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY” AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE VALUE OF LOCALLY OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES

Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. ENZI, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SCOTT, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. UDALL, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. KING, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TESTER, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 304

Whereas there are 28,443,856 small businesses in the United States;

Whereas small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all businesses with employees in the United States;

Whereas small businesses employ over 48.5 percent of the employees in the private sector in the United States;

Whereas small businesses pay over 42 percent of the total payroll of the employees in the private sector in the United States;

Whereas small businesses constitute 97.7 percent of firms exporting goods;

Whereas small businesses are responsible for more than 46 percent of private sector output;

Whereas small businesses generated 63 percent of net new jobs created over the past 20 years;

Whereas 87 percent of consumers in the United States agree that the success of small businesses is critical to the overall economic health of the United States;

Whereas 89 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses contribute positively to local communities by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue;

Whereas 93 percent of consumers in the United States agree that it is important to support the small businesses in their communities; and

Whereas November 28, 2015 is an appropriate day to recognize “Small Business Saturday”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and encourages the observance of “Small Business Saturday” on November 28, 2015; and

(2) supports efforts—

(A) to encourage consumers to shop locally; and

(B) to increase awareness of the value of locally owned small businesses and the impact of locally owned small businesses on the economy of the United States.

# AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2762. Mr. FLAKE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1140, to require the Secretary of the Army and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to propose a regulation revising the definition of the term “waters of the United States”, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

# TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2762. Mr. FLAKE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1140, to require the Secretary of the Army and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to propose a regulation revising the definition of the term “waters of the United States”, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 5 and insert the following:

# SEC. 5. SUPPLEMENTAL SCIENTIFIC REVIEW AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) SUPPLEMENTAL SCIENTIFIC REVIEW PANEL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary and the Administrator shall establish a panel, to be known as the “Supplemental Scientific Review Panel” (referred to in this subsection as the “Panel”), to submit to the Secretary and the Administrator recommendations regarding metrics, based on the best available scientific information, to quantify the degree of connectivity between any body of water or wetland and a traditionally navigable water.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Panel shall be composed of 9 members, of whom—

(i) 2 shall be appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate;

(ii) 2 shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;

(iii) 2 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(iv) 2 shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; and

(v) 1 shall be appointed by the President of the National Academy of Engineering.

(B) DATE OF APPOINTMENTS.—The appointment of a member of the Panel shall be made not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(C) QUALIFICATIONS.—Each member of the Panel shall be appointed from among individuals who possess—

(i) expertise in a field of the biogeosciences, such as hydrology, ecology, or geomorphology;

(ii) (I) academic excellence, as determined in accordance with criteria including peer-reviewed journal publications and invited academic conference presentations; or

(II) practical expertise demonstrated by a record of employment as a professional with equivalent experience as an academic scientist; and

(iii) experience regarding collecting and interpreting field measurements of streams and wetlands.

(D) REQUIREMENT.—In appointing members of the Panel, each appointing officer referred